

San Bernardino County



Larry Walker

Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Distribution

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From: Larry Walker, Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY LAUNCHES PAY CARD PROGRAM

San Bernardino, CA — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller Larry Walker announced today that his office recently implemented a Pay Card Program as an option for San Bernardino County employees to receive their payroll funds.

San Bernardino County is one of the area's largest employers with over 19,000 employees. Prior to implementation of the Pay Card program, several hundred County employees were still receiving paper paychecks each pay period. Many of these employees do not have traditional bank accounts, and the Pay Card program now provides the County with the ability to offer direct deposit to these employees as well.

"Most of the County's workforce already receives their payroll funds by way of direct deposit," Walker said. "My office is committed to developing ways to reduce costs and support green initiatives, while providing a convenient service to employees."

The Pay Card is a Visa-branded card that works like a debit card. Once employees enroll in the program and receive Pay Cards, their payroll funds are electronically deposited to the Pay Card in the same manner as a direct deposit to a bank account. Employees can then use their Pay Cards to make purchases at stores, cash withdrawals at ATMs or banks, and even pay bills online.

"San Bernardino County is one of the first counties in the State to launch a Pay Card program," said Walker. "By eliminating paper warrants, the County achieves immediate cost savings associated with the payroll process, including staff time, cost of paper, and paycheck production and distribution costs." Since April, 783 employees have been enrolled into the Pay Card program.

Walker's office began electronic initiatives in 1999 when language was added to the Memorandum of Understanding between the San Bernardino Public Employees' Association and the County of San Bernardino requiring that all employees hired after March 27, 1999 must enroll in direct deposit.

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